

Continued Record Setting Performance for Sherman Schools

Sherman I.S.D. announced the best State Accountability Ratings in the history of the current system this past August with 8 of 10 regular campuses meeting “Recognized” or “Exemplary” status. On the heels of this news, the Texas Education Agency reported to the district that additional accolades are deserved for the performance of their students in 2008-09. In sixteen years of recognizing schools for accomplishments above and beyond the standard accountability system, the Sherman I.S.D. has never before received as many “additional” awards. The district just learned that in the 2008-09 year, student achievement in a variety of areas, including TAKS and College Readiness, yielded 28 Gold Performance Acknowledgments, which is more than double the amount from the previous year and exceeds the total number of awards received in 2006-07 and 2007-08 combined.

The Texas Educational Agency released Gold Performance Acknowledgements to school districts on November 4th. The awards were created by the Texas Legislature to publicly recognize districts and campuses for high performance in areas that are in addition to those used to determine state accountability ratings. These indicators are in statute and determined by the Commissioner of Education. Districts and/or campuses may receive acknowledgment in Advance Course or Dual Enrollment Completion; Advanced Placement Results; Attendance Rates; College-Ready Graduates; Commended Performance in Reading/ELA, Writing, Math, Science, and Social Studies; Comparable Improvement in Reading/ELA and Math; Recommended High School Program/Distinguished Achievement Program; SAT/ACT Results; and the Texas Success Initiative/High Ed Readiness Component in ELA and Math. Commended Performance is the highest performance distinction that can be reached on the TAKS test. Comparable Improvement recognizes campuses for achieving a degree of improvement from one year to the next that places them in the top 25 percent of its 40-member campus comparison group. “College-Ready Graduates” is a new award this year and represents a district or campus that has 35% or more of their graduates meeting or exceeding the college-ready criteria on the TAKS exit-level test (ELA/Math), SAT, or ACT.

Sherman I.S.D. is proud to report that the district and nine campuses have qualified for 28 Gold Performance Acknowledgments based on the performance of their students in 2008-09.

- **Sherman I.S.D.:** Commended Performance in Social Studies and TSI/Higher Ed Readiness in ELA
- **Sherman High School:** College-Ready Graduates, Commended Performance in Social Studies, Comparable Improvement in Reading, and TSI/Higher Ed Readiness in ELA
- **Perrin Learning Center:** Commended Performance in Social Studies
- **Piner Middle School:** Commended Performance in Reading and Comparable Improvement in Reading and Math
- **Fairview Elementary School:** Commended Performance in Reading, Math, and Writing
- **Jefferson Elementary School:** Commended Performance in Reading, Math, and Writing
- **Neblett Elementary School:** Commended Performance in Reading and Comparable Improvement in Reading and Math
- **Sory Elementary School:** Commended Performance in Reading and Math, and Comparable Improvement in Math
- **Wakefield Elementary School:** Commended Performance in Math
- **Washington Elementary School:** Commended Performance in Reading, Math, and Writing, and Comparable Improvement in Reading and Math

Gold Performance Acknowledgements from around the State may be viewed on the Texas Education Agency’s website at <http://ritter.tea.state.tx.us/perfreport/account/2009/index.html>.